

CESTRUM NEBLINENSE
(SOLANACEAE),
A NEW SPECIES FROM
VENEZUELA

During preparation of the family treatment of the Solanaceae for the upcoming *Flora of the Guayana Highlands* (Steyermark et al., in prep.),

material of a distinctive and undescribed species of *Cestrum* was encountered.

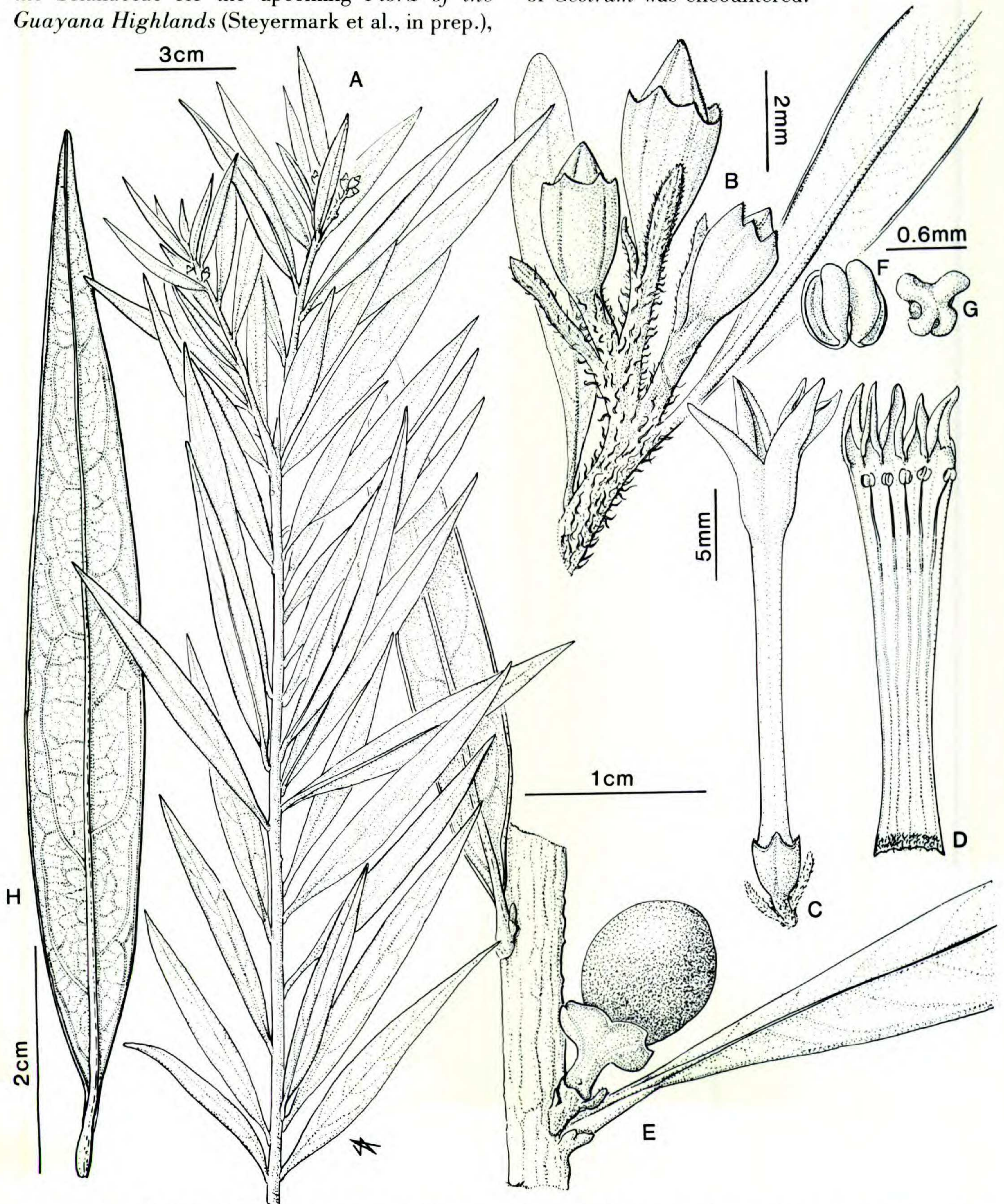


FIGURE 1. *Cestrum neblinense* (Liesner 16661).—A. Branch with flower buds.—B. Young inflorescence.—C. Flower.—D. Opened corolla.—E. Fruit.—F, G. Anthers.—H. Leaf, abaxial side.

Cestrum neblinense, sp. nov. TYPE: Venezuela. Territorio Federal Amazonas: Dept. Río Negro, Cerro de La Neblina, 0°51'N, 65°57'W, 700 m, Mar. 1984, *Liesner 16661* (holotype, MO).

Frutex 1–2 m altus, ramis rufo-tomentosis, pilis curvis, ascendentibus, multicellularibus. Folia solitaria, anguste lanceolata, apice acuminato, parce pilifera. Flos calyce glabrato, 2.5 mm longo, bulboso; corolla 27 mm longa, extus et intus glabra praeter partem imum tomentosum; staminibus subaequilongis, rectis, edentatis, glabris, antheris inclusis.

Shrub 1–2 m tall; twigs reddish, tomentulose with curved, ascending, multicellular hairs, older branches glabrate, longitudinally furrowed and minutely tuberculate from the bases of the caducous trichomes; bumpy from the nodes (bases) of fallen leaves. Leaves narrowly lanceolate, sometimes slightly oblique, subcoriaceous or stiffly papyraceous, mostly 8–10 cm long, 10–11 mm wide, apically narrowly acute or acuminate, basally acute or obtuse, drying slightly discolored, shiny above, glabrescent above except sometimes near the midvein and sometimes glabrescent beneath, the midvein greatly elevated above and beneath, the lateral venation of 4–6 prominent and conspicuous, looping, brochidodromous veins on each side of the midvein, the lateral veins lighter-colored beneath, the minor venation evident, the margins slightly revolute, both sides of margins puberulent with scattered curved whitish hairs; petioles 2–4 mm long, indistinct from the blade. Minor leaves wanting. Inflorescences 1–3-flowered clusters on axillary short-shoots or terminal; rachis tomentulose, 2–5 mm long; bracts 4–5 mm long; bractlets 2 mm long; pedicels obsolete or up to 1.5 mm long. Flowers with the calyx glabrate, 2.5 mm long, sub-

globose, indistinctly nerved, undulate-lobed, the lobes ciliolate, 0.3 mm long, the cup basally narrowed into the pedicel; corolla white(?), 27 mm long, the tube slender, slightly expanded in the upper ¼, glabrous outside except for a few hairs in the sinuses near the apex, inside glabrous except for a small tomentose region at the very base, the lobes lanceolate, 2.5 mm long, ciliolate; stamens subequal, ca. 1 mm free, straight, edentate, glabrous, the anthers included, ca. 0.8 mm long. Berry ca. 9 mm long; seeds 7, 5–7 mm long.

Additional specimens examined. VENEZUELA. TERRITORIO FEDERAL AMAZONAS: Dept. Río Negro, Cerro de La Neblina, *Maquire et al. 42500* (MO, US).

The willowlike leaves of this species resemble those of *Cestrum salicifolium* Jacq., also from Venezuela, and those of *C. skutchii* Morton from Guatemala, but these species have glabrate twigs, membranaceous or chartaceous leaves, and staminal filaments with dentate appendages. The twigs of *C. neblinense*, with their ascending, curved trichomes, resemble those in *C. tubulosum* Sendt. of southern Venezuela, which in contrast has thick, coriaceous, broadly ovate leaves and stamens with filaments that are free for 6 mm (vs. 1 mm in *C. neblinense*).

This species is named for Cerro de La Neblina, the locality of the type collection.

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